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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3028
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008

VIA AIR

DISPATCH NO. ECB-4-30930

SECRET
CLASSIFICATION

DATE OCT 18 1955

TO : Chief, EE

INFO: CCB

FROM : Chief of Base, Berlin.

SUBJECT: Operational/Call

Progress Report ☐ ☒ ☐

REF: ECB-4-30930

Summary: This dispatch discusses the substantive intelligence reports furnished by Subject since February 1955. The operational leads furnished by Subject are reported, and ECJ plans for activating these leads are indicated. The progress which Subject has made with his camera is briefly discussed. The latter part of this dispatch deals with Subject's party status, cover and security, methods of obtaining information, ☐ aspects and the case officer's estimate of Subject's overall performance. ECJ's thoughts for future use of Subject are also included.

No operational or financial requests are included.

1. Since the last Progress Report was forwarded under reference, there have been meetings about twice a month between Subject and the undersigned. Each of these meetings yielded a considerable amount of substantive as well as operational information.

Substantive Reporting:

2. Substantive information furnished by Subject since March 1955 has been disseminated by the ECJ Reports Section under the following ECB numbers: 8518, 8536, 8722, 8770, 8947, 9057, 9073, 9127, 9133, 9136, 9150, 9151, 9153, 9269, 9408, 9433, 9446, 9575, 9678, 9724, 9915, 10,090, 10,083, 10,084, 10,106, 10,213, 10,347 and 10,348. The information contained in some of these reports was cabled in ECB-7636, 6566, 9408, 9460 and 0940. Subject also was the source of ECB-115.

Approved by:

ECJ: [Signature]

1 - ECB-4-30930
3 - CCB (w/106.4 DISSEM)

1. October 1955.

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REF: 81-28A

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3. The following evaluations were furnished by LITIA:

- a. ECB-907) was considered "of interest". The information contained in this report was evaluated "probable" and "very timely". LITIA added that "these reports are very helpful in keeping our CIA Handbook up to date. The information on conferences and possible treaties is also of interest."
- b. ECB-9144 and ECB-9150 also were "of interest", "probable", and "timely". No other written evaluations were received, but LITIA personnel on several occasions during conversations with the undersigned have expressed great interest in Subject's reports and seemed very pleased with results achieved so far.
- c. In June 1955 Subject's rating was upgraded from "Y" to "C" as a result of the quality and reliability of his reporting. The upgrading had the approval of EX (See paragraph 3, DEX 04555.)
- d. Many of the substantive items reported by Subject were subsequently confirmed by either East German overt sources, or by other covert sources. A case of confirmation by overt sources was, as has been indicated in ECB-4-22495, Subject's report concerning negotiations to have Schoenefeld airport returned to East German authorities (See ECB-3722). Subject reported this more than one month before it was published in the East German press. A case of confirmation by another covert source is Subject's report of the reorganization which took place in the ministry in late August or early September 1955. A few days after Subject reported this, [] obtained a similar report from Identity-1 (See separate cover attachment A.). The latter report is being disseminated as ECB-10,779.
- e. There is, however, one distinct discrepancy between the reports from Subject and Identity-1. Subject originally reported in paragraph 2, ECB-10,050, that a new department, Identity-3, has been established within Identity-1. Subsequently Subject reported that the original report was an error, and that Identity-2 actually comes under Identity-4. He stated that he elicited this information directly from Identity-5, the acting chief of Identity-2. Identity-1 subsequently reported that Identity-2 is a subordinate department of Identity-3. Although it would seem logical that Identity-2, judging by its name, would come under Identity-3, no further indications from either source or other sources have been received so far to clarify this particular point.
- f. Subject's reporting discipline continued to be above reproach. Subject continuously makes a conscientious attempt to report all information accurately. It has furthermore been noticed that, although Subject is anxious to report as much as possible, he never attempts to fill gaps in his report with conjecture or opinion, unless he specifically indicates in his reporting between facts and guess work.

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Finally, if Subject reports incomplete information, he makes every effort to collect the missing links of information for future meetings with the case officer.

8. Subject's sources and methods of obtaining information will be discussed in detail in another section below.

Reporting of Operational Leads:

9. In his position in the ministry, Subject has access to more than substantive intelligence. He meets, sees, and speaks to a good cross section of the ministry's employees, listens to their troubles, and picks up all kinds of gossip from his colleagues. Some of this information has been considered of operational value. The paragraphs below list the operational leads which have been furnished by Subject.

10. Identity-6 is the secretary of Identity-7. It was previously reported in paragraph 13 of Reference that she was the "right hand" of Identity-8, and that she makes frequent trips to West Berlin. This was particularly indicated by the type of clothes she wears, i.e. clothes which were obviously purchased in West Berlin. Subsequently Subject reported that Identity-6 had been demoted to work for Identity-7. Her demotion was due to the fact that Identity-9, with whom she had previously had an affair, had denounced her for making trips to West Berlin. Subject furthermore reported that, judging by Identity-6's external appearance, she seems to be leading a rather loose life. On the basis of this information it was decided that no further action be taken until it can be determined if Subject's friends are, whether and how frequently she comes to West Berlin, where in West Berlin she goes, and whether her West Berlin jaunts are common knowledge in the ministry.

11. Identity-10 was originally considered for recruitment because of his position as driver for Identity-11. Subsequent information reported by Subject revealed, however, that Identity-10 would in no way be suitable for recruitment. Although Identity-10 will do "anything" for money, he has on every occasion taken a stand for the party line. He is considered to be dishonest, unreliable, an alcoholic, and morally corrupt. In late 1954 and early 1955 he was accused of petty larceny. No action will be taken by PCB to approach Identity-10.

12. Identity-12 is the secretary of Identity-13. Identity-12 makes frequent trips to West Berlin and is strongly pro-West. Although not a member of the party, she is being retained in her position because of her secretarial abilities. Information on Identity-12 was furnished by Subject and was independently confirmed by Identity-1 to PCB on Identity-12. Identity-12 is listed in KIM-1119. As soon as PCB is received, Identity-12 will be approached, if attempts to lure her to West Berlin are successful.

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13. Identity-15 is in charge of Identity-16 and also acts in Identity-16's apartment. He is a member of the CP, but, according to Subject, he is thoroughly fed up with the party. Subject also described him as a cocky, brash man. Unfortunately, Identity-16 is suffering of a lung ailment, possibly tuberculosis. For that reason, no action has been taken, pending further clarification of the nature and extent of his illness.

14. Identity-16 is the subject of paragraph 21, 203-9575. He was previously described as a loyal and faithful Communist. After the incident described in 203-9575, Identity-16 was fired from the ministry but, for a brief period, remained free. 203 at first considered the possibility of approaching Identity-16 for the purpose of eliciting him to West Berlin. However, based on later information reported by Subject, plans to approach Identity-16 were dropped for the following reasons:

a. Identity-16's involvement with the CIA was a little-known affair at the ministry. Had Identity-16 been approached, Z-1 could easily have been flagged as the source of information.

b. Identity-16's last known address was in one of the ministry's bachelor houses. Any approach, even by courier-delivered note, could easily have been observed.

c. Z-1 has been told that high officials in the ministry were very much concerned lest Identity-16 flee to West Berlin. The CIA had been notified of this case and was surveilling Identity-16's movements.

d. Finally, in September, Subject reported that Identity-16 had been arrested 2 1/2 in prison, awaiting trial.

15. In July 1955 Identity-16's daughter, Identity-17, fled to West Germany. Identity-17, a young girl, was also advised that Identity-16 had fled to West Berlin in violation of the ministry's orders. Identity-17 was also told that Identity-16 was in violation of the ministry's orders and was being sought by the ministry. Identity-17 was also told that Identity-16 was in violation of the ministry's orders and was being sought by the ministry. Identity-17 was also told that Identity-16 was in violation of the ministry's orders and was being sought by the ministry.

a. Identity-18 has recently returned to his post abroad.

b. The information furnished by Z-1 plus the fact that Identity-18 failed to report his daughter in West Berlin were enough to indicate that Identity-18 would not come to West Berlin at the present time.

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16. Identity-17 has been reported by Subject to be in a position of operational interest. Subject indicated that she is not in the party and is opposed to the regime. The case officer will keep an eye on this lead, and if further information indicating approachability is obtained, the possibilities of an approach will be explored.

17. Identity-30 is of primary interest to the PCS DETROIT Section. DETROIT is interested in recruiting him as a source of operational and sensitive information on Identity-21. DETROIT has been kept informed of Identity-30's movements and attitude by [] 21. The information furnished by DETROIT-411 has been checked out with [] [] [] indicated that Identity-30 was dissatisfied with his job and as planning to leave it in early October 1955. A replacement for Identity-30 had already been found and dispatched to the city where Identity-30 works. Identity-30 had been offered another job by Identity-21, a personal

Excerpt #17
forwarded
Czech desk

Identity-20's movements will be closely watched, and all information will be coordinated between the DMIAD and EC3 Call Section. If Identity-20 can be lured to West Berlin, efforts will be made to keep him in his job, or at least in the ministry. If we are successful in convincing him, the joint DMIAD/Call interest in him will continue. The alternative would be to urge him to take the job in Identity-20's ministry. In this case, Call interest would continue. If we fail to convince him for either job, any visit of his to West Berlin would still be of debriefing value for Call and DMIAD. [] will continue to keep EC3 informed of Identity-20's movements, as long as the latter remains in the ministry. [] is on good terms with Identity-20, and the latter has promised to spend a social evening with [] and his family at the earliest opportunity.

18. A plan to intercept and photograph correspondence between ministry officials and Identity-1) was outlined in paragraph 5-b) of reference and was further discussed in 2-2-107 and 2-3-107. As was to be expected, progress to date has been slow in this particular aspect of the [] [] As of the date of this report, Subject has photographed several of his colleagues at the ministry, and one envelope addressed to Identity-2). The photographic results are being forwarded under Separate Cover Attachment 8. During recent months Subject has delivered letters from the ministry to addressees listed under Identity-3). The reasons why Subject has until now not been successful in photographing this material are the following:

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a. The case officer has repeatedly emphasized that security is more important than photographic results in this operation. Subject has heeded these instructions and has not used the camera when there were the slightest indications of danger. Subject reported that KIS officials have been paying frequent visits to the ministry in recent months, and during these visits Subject did not even keep the camera in his car.

ba. The time element has proven to be a deterrent factor in this operation. Subject has never had prior notice of a pending letter delivery. Before he is even informed that he is to deliver a letter, the addressee is called by the ministry and notified that a letter is on its way. The time Subject leaves the ministry is noted on the receipt. The time the letter is delivered is also noted. Time, even if there were no other security factors to consider, Subject has at most two or three minutes for opening, photographing, and resealing the mail. Since most deliveries are in the vicinity of the ministry, Subject would need at least 15 minutes to drive into a quiet area to do his work.

c. Many of the letters which Subject delivered are not only sealed in the ordinary manner but bear two or three wax seals in addition. This, of course, increases the problem of surreptitious entry.

d. Conditions for accurate photography are far from ideal in Subject's car. Unless he drives into a deserted open area-- has a special room available for photography, he is forced to do the photographing in his car, where lighting conditions are poor and adjustment of focus, distance, exposure time, and focal depth is based largely on guess work. Since Subject is still a beginner in photography, he needs a lot of practice.

19. In spite of the slow process of this particular operation, however, the camera definitely is an asset for KCS. Even if Subject never manages to intercept and photograph correspondence and other documents, he can, overtly, take snapshots of ministry employees, particularly those in whom KCS is operationally interested. This alone would justify the small investment (about \$20.--) which KCS made in the camera.

20. The possibilities of photographing correspondence will, of course, be pursued and explored further during next meeting between Subject and the case officer. At the same time, however, continued emphasis will be placed on security over photography.

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Meetings with Subject:

21. Meetings with Subject are now held approximately every two weeks. These meetings are divided roughly into three parts. During the early part of the evening Subject reports everything which has occurred since the last meeting. Occasionally he refers to his notebook, but the notes are entered and concealed in such a way that they would never compromise Subject. During the second part of the evening the case officer asks questions based on reports furnished by Subject during previous meetings, on current events, and on information obtained from other sources. The last part of the evening is devoted to a thorough briefing of Subject. During these briefings Subject is told in specific detail what to keep his eyes and ears open for in regard to policy, structure and functions, personnel, and movement of officials of the ministry.

22. The case officer has prepared a sanitized file of ministry personnel which he takes along to each of the meetings. Periodically this file is reviewed with Subject, and Subject then makes corrections, additions, and deletions. The file thus serves as a means of getting out of Subject information which he, under ordinary circumstances, does not consider important enough to report or simply forgets. At the same time, use of the card index at these meetings serves as a means of keeping KGB files on the ministry up to date. Much of the information obtained through use of this card index is contained in some of the reports listed in paragraph 2 above.

Methods of Obtaining Information:

23. To the reader not actually in touch with the operation the impression might be created that Subject is performing too many tasks and, judging by the quality and wide range of his production, is "sticking his fingers into too many pies". However, as has been pointed out in paragraph 10c of ECF-A-21276, Subject performs all his tasks for KGB during his normal working days, and without taking any extra risks. In recent months Subject has been in a particularly favorable position to obtain information for KGB. His immediate superior, Identity-26, has preferred to go out on official trips and has delegated many of his functions and duties to Subject. As a result, whenever Subject is not out with his boss or performing other assignments for the ministry, he has access to previously untapped means of obtaining information. In performing Identity-26's functions, for example, he has every right to have each individual approaching him for official services identify himself by name and ministry component. In this manner Subject learned directly from Identity-3 that Identity-2 belongs into Identity-4, not into Identity-3. (See paragraph 6 above). Subject obtained this information when Identity-3 came to the ministry and stated that he needed services for his wife. He was told that he should go to the ministry of Identity-4. Identity-3 replied: "I am the chief of Identity-2, the new department in Identity-4."

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26. On interrogations of the case officer, Subject has also been developing friends in other components of the Embassy. It is reported that these friends will serve to serve from unofficial sources. The only friend is Identity-27 who has already given Subject several confidential items of information. Another unofficial source is Identity-28 who is a good personal friend of Subject and operates via his home. In the spring of 1955 Identity-28 reported Subject was in a social setting with a vacation identity and is working on a social setting with a good officer and was given several items for obtaining information from Identity-26. The information obtained by Subject was distributed to Identity-26.

25. The most important working case on continued to be Identity-29. Subject has been with his boss for several years now, and the relationship between him and his boss has become more and more official over the years. On several recent occasions the boss has expressed his confidence in Subject, and opinions that he and Subject were alike. On some occasions the boss has expressed with other high-ranking Embassy officials in Subject's presence. Recent indications have been that the boss's evaluation in the Embassy is steadily improving, that he is considered to be a capable man in the Embassy, and that his department is producing the best important facilities. In view of this, the case officer has recommended that Subject be made every effort to stay on good terms with his boss and to build up his relationship, whenever possible. It is pointed out that eventually Subject will be trusted to assist some of the most important working identity policy from his boss. On such occasions it is not proper to report, e.g., if all people, Identity-29 and Subject are not reported to the boss, it is felt that this question will be so very important to Subject or others, the reputation of his boss, since they expect the Embassy are wondering about the same thing, and so are bound to show the same.

Party Membership

24. The question of Subject's joining the PD was briefly touched in paragraph 13 of reference and was further discussed in paragraph 13 of Identity-23, and paragraph 14 of Identity-24. Since then, Subject has completed his first Party course. From his own account, he is completely satisfied, he was very good for admission into the Party because he was fully qualified in accordance with the educational background and personal qualities level, he did not show sufficient interest and participation in the Party. He was told that his case would be considered in the future. He was told that his case would be considered after he has completed the second Party course in which he is currently enrolled.

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27. Subject has finally begun to realize the importance of his joining the party, especially in view of the fact that the day may come when non-party members will be ousted from their ministry jobs. Consequently subject is now making a serious effort to join the party. He is on friendly terms with the ministry's party secretary and with personnel in the ministry's Cadre Department. Some of the individuals who played a role in the decision to postpone his admission into the party have acted rather apologetically towards him, and Subject has taken advantage of the situation to voice his disappointment with his current non-party status. It is quite likely that his case will come up in the near future again, and Subject is repeatedly being briefed by the case officer on the line to use when he comes up for "oral examination".

28. As an indication of Subject's ability to handle himself within party circles, the following is reported for the record:

At the end of May 1955, when Subject had finished his first party course, a critique was held in which Subject was told why he is not yet being admitted into the party (see paragraph 26 above). He was particularly criticized for devoting too little time to his studies of the History of the CPW. Subject replied, in ostensible answer, that he believes in criticism and self-criticism, but only if justified. In his case, he claimed, the criticism is not justified because his teachers did not take enough interest in him, did not give him enough assignments, and was he firm the opportunity to present a criticism paper. He furthermore pointed out that his free time was taken up by (some) activities for the state, so that he was unable to devote more time to his schooling. At the end of his speech Subject was applauded by all present. His boss heard about Subject's speech the next day and told him that he had done and said the right thing. The boss added that, at the proper moment, he would try to use his influence to get Subject into the party.

29. One new element has been introduced into the problem of Subject's joining the party. His wife is violently opposed to the party and regime, and Subject is afraid that his matrimonial harmony will be upset if he joins the party without telling his wife the true reasons. His wife is still unaware of Subject's activities for NCJ and does not even know that Subject ever comes to West Berlin. The question of Subject's wife will be discussed in more detail below in the section dealing with GASTRA.

Cover and Security:

30. There have been no problems concerning Subject's cover and security. Most of the tasks which he performs for NCJ come within the routine activities of his regular working day. He displays no more and

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Application of Regulation.

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religion, a "bad" doctor has been not up-

is subject to the provisions of the law of the State of New York.

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amount of essentials about his activities against the regime, she would be a moral support to him and would ride out any storm with him.

36. This problem would, of course, become of prime importance if and when Subject installs and services a transmission set. Subject has flatly stated that he could and would not do this without giving his wife at least some indication of what is going on.

37. The case officer has given Subject no instructions in this respect until now, since neither the party nor the [] problem has become acute as yet. From a security point of view it would, of course, be ideal to keep his wife completely unwitting. However, if the situation described above arises, SCB must be prepared to permit Subject to tell his wife at least that he is working against the East. Under no circumstances will Subject be permitted to reveal American interest. If possible, he will also be instructed to reveal nothing about trips to West Berlin.

The Future:

38. If Subject can retain his job in the ministry, he will become of increasing value and importance to SCB. It must be anticipated that, with East German sovereignty, Subject's ministry will play an increasingly important role in the East German Government. Liaison between the ministry and Identity-1) will obviously also gain in scope and importance.

39. Subject himself has stated that he will be at SCB's disposal as long as he can possibly stick it out in East Berlin. He has furthermore stated that if he should be drafted into the East German army or air force, or should be assigned to the East German Luftwaffe, he would follow SCB's wishes, i.e. he would choose one of the following alternatives:

a. Remain in the ministry as long as possible and try, on the basis of his war disability, to avoid further army service;

b. Permit himself to be commissioned or even volunteer in one of the branches of the East German Armed Forces;

c. If he can't remain in the ministry, and SCB does not have any need for him in the East German Armed Forces, he and his family will come over to the West.

40. No commitments have been made to Subject concerning these alternatives. He has merely been told that, for the time being, he should try to stay where he is, should make every effort to get into the party, should use every opportunity to develop new friends in the ministry, and should continue the same functions for SCB which he has been performing in the past.

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11. If ICS should be successful in recruiting more people to the security, Espionage Section will, eventually, be able to recruit, except that, perhaps, the volume of recruitment may be somewhat reduced somewhat, which may be held until further notice. It may be devoted to exploit any further reports which subject may possess.

Findings

12. Subject's performance for ICS has been very good. He has, on all occasions, displayed high intelligence, initiative, cover and security discipline, and a willingness to accept the information and reporting is correctly and accurately.

13. Thomas Subject appreciates the duty he is doing for ICS, and has stated that he would continue, at this point, to work for ICS without money. It appears to be completely devoted to his work, and is largely due to the fact that he considers working for ICS to be a bulwark against Communism and the only hope for realization of a free and democratic condition.

RECOMMENDATION: S/O

- A - Submitted through -30.
- B - Placed in file.
- C - Submitted of persons in AIO. B & C.

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Summary-19 -

✓ (1941) The German Government has been informed that the German Government is to be informed of the results of the investigation.

Summary-20 -

The German Government has been informed that the German Government is to be informed of the results of the investigation.

Summary-21 -

The German Government has been informed that the German Government is to be informed of the results of the investigation.

Summary-22 -

The German Government has been informed that the German Government is to be informed of the results of the investigation.

Summary-23 -

The German Government has been informed that the German Government is to be informed of the results of the investigation.

Summary-24 -

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Summary-25 -

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NO ATTACHMENT B TO
20-1-1500

Presented herewith are the pictures discussed in paragraph 10.
The pictures are further described in Separate Cover Attachment C.

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The pictures forwarded under Separate Cover Attachment B contain the following:

1. Pictures A and B (see back of pictures for letters) represent practice attempts by Subject to photograph printed matter in his automobile.
2. Pictures C and D are photographs of the envelope discussed in paragraph 13.
3. Picture E: (1) Johannes [redacted] and (2) [redacted] in a car in the [redacted] area.
4. Picture F: (1) Johannes [redacted] and (2) [redacted], a Ministry truck driver, and (3) [redacted].
5. Picture G: Johannes [redacted] working on HANKE's car.
6. Picture H: Johannes [redacted] working on HANKE's car.
7. Picture I: (1) Wern [redacted], (2) Johannes [redacted], and (3) Willi [redacted].
8. Picture J: Ministry employees during lunch in the Ministry's canteen. The identifiable names are: (1) [redacted], (2) [redacted], and (3) [redacted].

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